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murdered innocent civilians, burned and pillaged Belgian towns, exploited the country by means of requisitions, fines, and contributions, terrorized the population and rode rough-shod over the established laws of war are told in a plain straightforward manner, without a trace of bias or prejudice. Mr. Gibson readily admits, as many fair-minded Belgians themselves admit, that there were occasional instances of "sniping" by the inhabitants; but they were only isolated cases and constituted no justification for the terrible retribution that was again and again meted out to the communities in which such acts were committed. The whole story constitutes a vivid and damning indictment against German policy in Belgium, the truth of which none but a very incredulous person will ever deny.

JAMES W. GARNER

*Diary of a nation. The war and how we got into it.* By Edward S. Martin of "Life." (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Page and company, 1917. 407 p. \$1.50 net)

Editorial utterances are, as a rule, not worthy of republication. They are often the product of a momentary mood; they are frequently based on slight information; and their interest usually disappears when the problem under discussion enters upon a new phase. And yet, in defiance of this fact, Mr. Edward S. Martin has ventured to publish an entire volume of editorials ranging over a period of nearly three years; and the reviewer believes that they will be read with as much pleasure now as on the day when they first appeared.

It is not possible to review a volume of this sort; all that can be done, and all that need be done, is to call attention to its existence. Nor does it seem necessary to catalog its many qualities, least of all to mention the author's kindly humor and biting wit, for the humor of *Life* is far more widely known and appreciated than many good people are willing to admit. It surely is a pleasure to have the opportunity to read in consecutive order all the delightful things that Mr. Martin has found to say during the past three years about the kaiser, Mr. Roosevelt, Josephus Daniels, Mr. Bryan, the pro-Germans, the pacifists, and all the other prominent actors in the farces and tragedies of contemporary life. The reader will also be impressed with the faithful manner in which these editorials reflect the changing moods and varying emotions of the American people during the fateful months when German aggression was forcing us into war; and the volume is therefore not improperly named *The diary of a nation*.

L. M. L.